

Appl. No. 10/642,367
Atty. Docket No.: 2001B052A/2
Amdt. dated July 20, 2007
Response to OA of March 21, 2007

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 20 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Further consideration of the subject application in light of the remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-26, 27-39, 41-46, and 49-58 are pending.

Statement of Common Ownership

Application No. 10/642,367 and U.S. Patent 6,407,279 were, at the time the invention of Application No. 10/642,367 was made, 100% owned by (through affiliates and holding companies) Exxon Mobil Corporation.

Obviousness Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-26, 28-39, and 41-46 and 49-58 have been rejected as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,407,279 to Buchanan et al. ("Buchanan") alone, or taken in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,535,341 to Emmons et al. ("Emmons") and U.S. Patent No. 2,873,282 to McClellan ("McClellan".)

At the time of the filing of the present application, Buchanan only qualified as prior art under subsection (e) of 35 U.S.C. §102. At the time of filing of the present invention, both inventions were owned by Exxon Mobil Corporation as indicated in the above statement of Common Ownership. As indicated in MPEP 606.02(l)(2) and 35 U.S.C. 103(c)(1), this statement alone is sufficient evidence to disqualify Buchanan from being used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) against the claims of the present invention.

As conceded by the Office, Emmons and McClellan fail to show or suggest all of the claimed elements or render the claimed invention obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the above remarks, that the rejection of the claims be removed, and that the claims, be passed to allowance.

Appl. No. 10/642,367
Atty. Docket No.: 2001B052A/2
Amdt. dated July 20, 2007
Response to OA of March 21, 2007

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JUL 20 2007

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Applicant would also like to request that an interview prior to the issuance of a final Office Action in this case.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account number 05-1712. Moreover, if the deposit account contains insufficient funds, the Commissioner is hereby invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to arrange payment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 20, 2007


Michael S. Kerns (Reg. 51,233)
Attorney for Applicant

Post Office Address (to which correspondence is to be sent):
ExxonMobil Chemical Company
Law Technology
P.O. Box 2149
Baytown, Texas 77522-2149
Telephone No. (281) 834-0341
Facsimile No. (281) 834-2495